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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/926,681	03/14/2002	Virgilio Borges Loureiro	211341US0XPCT	8291

22850 7590 08/01/2003

OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
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ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER

GITOMER, RALPH J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1651

DATE MAILED: 08/01/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The proposed reply received on 4/14/2003 (how to respond letter), 4/22/2003 (amendment), and 5/16/2003 (confirmation fax) have not been entered because they are not signed by an
5 authorized person. An amendment must be signed by a person having authority to prosecute the application. An unsigned or improperly signed amendment will not be entered. See MPEP 714.01(a) and 714.01(d).

There is a duly appointed attorney in this application.
10 Applicants may consider withdraw of power of attorney and change of address if desired. The charge for the amendment as presented is \$110 for a one month extension of time. No attorney is required to obtain a US patent, applicants may obtain a patent on their own, called Pro se. The US Patent Office will correspond
15 at a single address with a single applicant whose single signature would appear on all required documents. Any applicant you select can be an authorized person.

Since the above mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*,
20 applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME LIMIT MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Should applicants desire, this examiner is available by appointment to assist applicants on the phone, please call during business hours at (703) 308-0732 to schedule an appointment if desired.

5

Regarding the intended amendment, the claims have been renumbered according to Rule 1.126, claims 1-11, 14-16 appear to be pending. Please confirm claims 12, 13, 17-20 are intended to be canceled. Please note that ~~use~~ claims, such as present
10 claims 15 and 16, are not patentable in the US. There is patentable material presented, however, the language and format of the claims presented is non-standard and not in condition for allowance. The claims must be carefully rewritten in accordance with standard US patent practice. More extensive amendments are
15 required of the claims than the examiner can readily provide because the amendments will change the scope of the claims.

The Abstract of the Disclosure is objected to because of legal phraseology. Correction is required. See M.P.E.P.
20 § 608.01(b).

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: The specification lacks standard headings and format. Please update the specification regarding the related
25 priority applications. Appropriate correction is required.

Serial No. 09/926,681
Art Unit 1651

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ralph Gitomer whose telephone number is (703) 308-0732. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Friday from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

5 The examiner can also be reached on alternate Mondays. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Wityshyn can be reached on (703) 308-4743. The fax phone numbers for this Art Unit are before final (703) 872-9306 and after final (703) 872-9307. Any inquiry

10 of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1235. For 24 hour access to patent application information 7 days per week, or for filing applications electronically, please visit our website at

15 www.uspto.gov and click on the button Patent Electronic Business Center for more information.

Ralph Gitomer

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